

Genus	Vol. 6 (3-4): 441-446	Wrocław, 15 XII 1995
-------	-----------------------	----------------------

Charidotella (Metrionaspis) santaremi n. sp., from Brazil*
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Cassidinae)

LECH BOROWIEC

Zoological Institute, University of Wrocław, Sienkiewicza 21, 50-335 Wrocław, Poland

ABSTRACT. *Charidotella (Metrionaspis) santaremi* n. sp. is described from Brazil. It is the second species of the subgenus.

Key words: entomology, Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Cassidinae, new species, Brazil.

SPAETH (1942) proposed the genus *Metrionaspis* for *Aspidomorpha rubicunda* GUÉRIN (1844), a species which after the description, was placed in the genera *Coptocyclus* by BOHEMAN (1855) and *Metriona* by SPAETH (1914). It is a well known Neotropical species distributed in Peru, Bolivia, Paraguay and southern provinces of Brazil. BOROWIEC (1989) placed *Metrionaspis* as a subgenus within the genus *Charidotella* WEISE. No other species was included in the subgenus hitherto. Recently have I found in various collections several specimens of the species with subgeneric characters of *Metrionaspis* but not conspecific with *Charidotella (Metrionaspis) rubicunda* (GUÉRIN). Its description is given below.

Charidotella (Metrionaspis) santaremi n. sp.

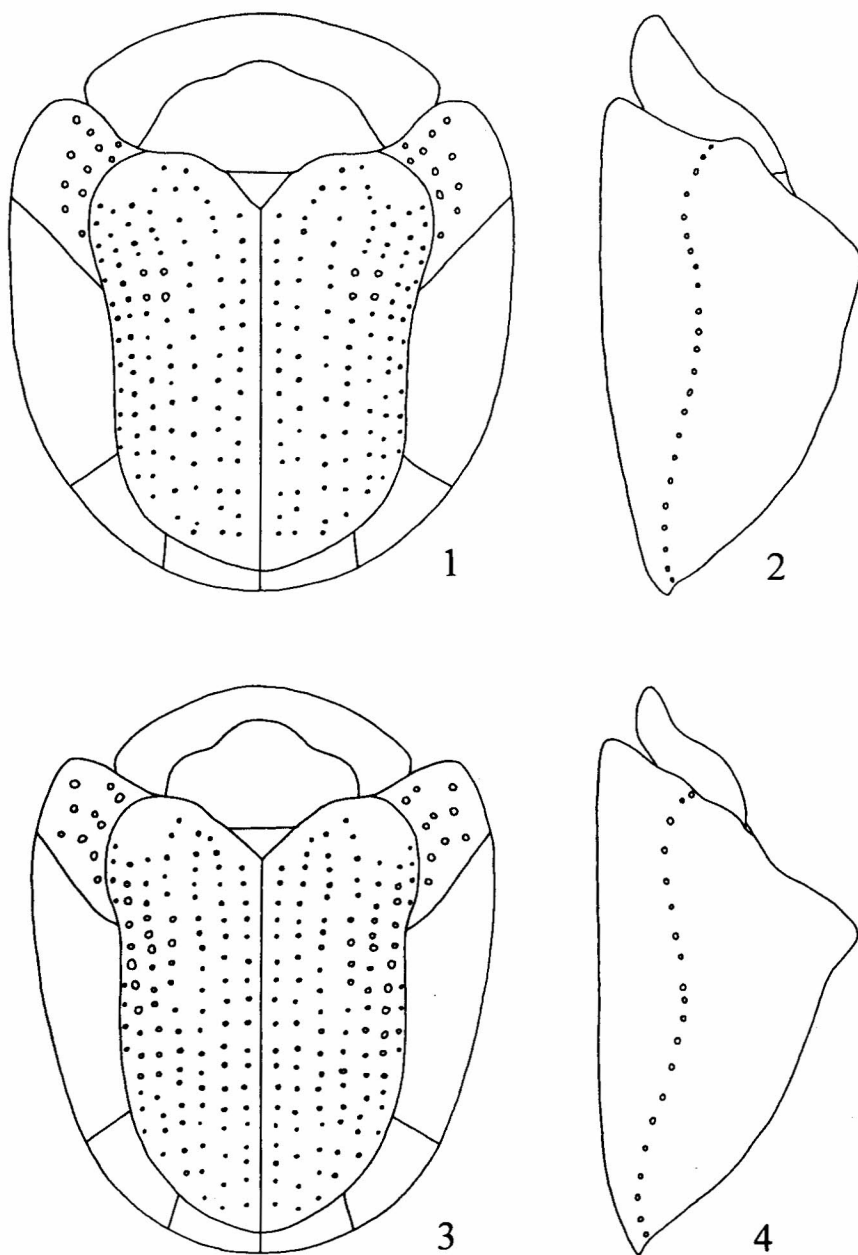
ETYMOLOGY

Named after the type locality, city Santarem in the Para Province of Brazil.

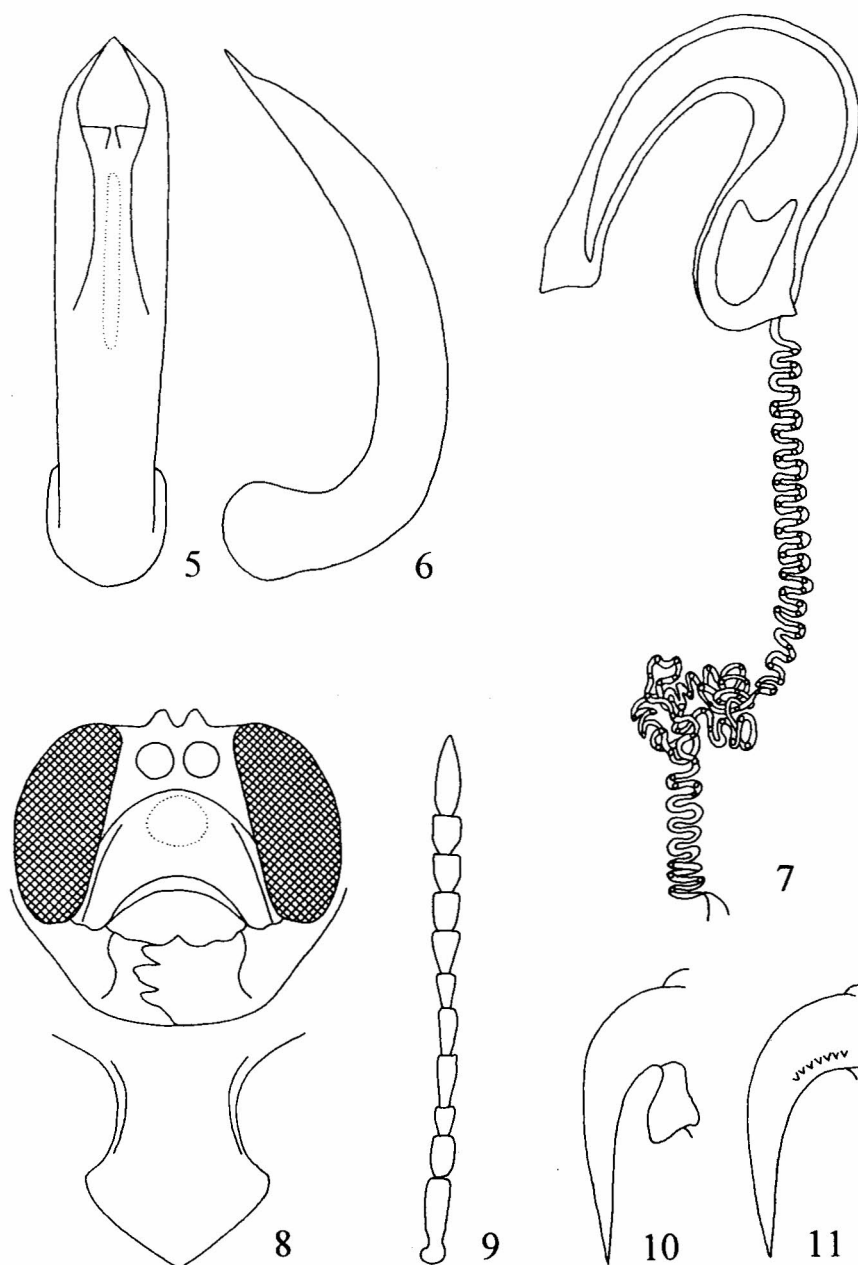
DIAGNOSIS

Like *Ch. rubicunda* (GUER.) the new species has elytra tuberculate, explanate margin with red humeral and posterolateral spots, male mid claws simple, and in

*Papers Celebrating the 90th Birthday of Dr. Bolesław Burakowski



1-2. *Charidotella (Metrionaspis) santaremi* n. sp. 3-4. *Ch. (M.) rubicunda* (GUÉRIN); 1, 3 - dorsal view,
2, 4 - lateral view



5-11. *Charidotella (Metrionaspis) santaremi* n. sp.: 5, 6 - male genitalia: 5 - dorsal view, 6 - lateral view; 7 - spermatheca, 8 - head and prosternum, 9 - antenna, 10 - external claw of hind tarsi, 11 - internal claw of hind tarsi

both sexes external hind claw appendiculate and internal hind claw simple. All these characters place *Ch. santaremi* n. sp. within the subgenus *Metrionaspis*. It is slightly stouter than *Ch. rubicunda*, with elytral sides slightly more rounded, less converging posterad (figs 1, 3). Postscutellar tubercle in *Ch. santaremi* is distinctly lower than in *Ch. rubicunda* (fig. 2), with obtuse apex (in *Ch. rubicunda* the tubercle is high, almost conical, with angulate apex, fig. 4). In *Ch. rubicunda* last 5-6 antennal segments are brownish to black while in *Ch. santaremi* only four apical segments are darkened. Both species are distinctly separated geographically, the type localities of *Ch. santaremi* are more than 1000 km north or northeast of the distribution area of *Ch. rubicunda*.

DESCRIPTION

Length: 6.7-8.1 mm, width: 5.8-6.9 mm, length/width ratio: male - 1.10-1.13, female - 1.16-1.18 (in *Ch. rubicunda*: male - 1.13-1.14, female - 1.17-1.20), length of pronotum: 2.1-2.5 mm, width of pronotum: 3.9-4.5 mm.

Pronotum yellow, explanate margin slightly paler than disc. Scutellum yellow. Elytral disc reddish-yellow to red. Explanate margin yellow with large reddish humeral and posterolateral spots. The spots occupy almost whole width of the explanate margin, only the very edge yellow. Ventrites yellow. Antennae yellow, last four segments infusate to black, ventral side of the last segment partly yellow.

Pronotum subtrapezial, with anterior margin distinctly less rounded than posterior one, and maximum width distinctly anterad to the middle, sides subangulate. Disc moderately convex, indistinctly bordered from explanate margin, surface smooth, shiny. On each side of disc shallow impression. Explanate margin very broad, subhorizontal, surface smooth, shiny, with honeycomb structure.

Scutellum triangular, with no impressions or sulci. Base of elytra distinctly wider than pronotum, humeral angles strongly protruding anterad, margin behind angle not emarginate and humeral angle subrounded (fig. 1). Disc strongly convex, with obtuse postscutellar tubercle (fig. 2). Outline of disc behind the tubercle only slightly concave. No postscutellar impressions. Punctuation of disc mostly regular, only on sides partly irregular. Punctures small, only in principal impression and on sides slightly larger; in slope, especially in its posterolateral part, punctures very fine, partly vanishing. Distance between punctures in anterior half of disc 2.0-2.5 times wider than puncture diameter, in posterior part of disc 2.5-3.0 wider than punctures; only on side of disc, laterally to principal impression, distance between punctures c. twice wider than puncture diameter. Punctures in marginal row 2-3 times larger than in submarginal one. Intervals in sutural part of disc 4-5 times wider than rows, flat, on side of disc intervals narrower, 2.0-2.5 times wider than rows. Principal impression shallow but distinct, but no lateral impression (in *Ch. rubicunda* principal impression is deeper, lateral impression is shallow but distinct, punctuation in impressed part of elytron stronger than in *Ch. santaremi*). Explanate margin subhorizontal, very broad, in the widest part almost as wide as $\frac{3}{5}$ width of each disc, surface shiny, with honeycomb structure, except humeral spot impunctate.

Humeral spot with 4-7(9) large punctures, but they are smaller than in *Ch. rubicunda* and group mostly near marginal row, while in *Ch. rubicunda* large punctures are often distributed on whole surface of the humeral spot. Apex of elytral epipleura bare in both sexes.

Clypeus broad, c. twice wider than long, surface smooth, shiny, apex in the middle with large, round impression. Anterior margin converging in arch. Clypeal grooves very fine, distinct only in basal 2/3 of clypeus. Frontoclypeal grooves distinct, deep. Eyes large, occupy whole sides of head. Labrum narrow, shallowly emarginate to 1/5 length. Prosternal collar almost reduced. Prosternal process between procoxae very broad, slightly expanded apically (fig. 8), apex rhomboidal, its surface smooth or only apex slightly irregular, shiny.

Antennae moderately long and thin, extending to mid coxae. Six basal segments glabrous and sparsely pubescent, the remainder dull and densely pubescent. Length ratio of antennal segments: 100:50:40:65:65:55:65:50:55:50: [male 110, female 100]. First segment elongate, second twice shorter, third distinctly shorter than the second, seventh segment in *Ch. santaremi* distinctly wider than in *Ch. rubicunda* (fig. 9).

Legs slim, last segment of tarsi as long as the third. Fore claws with basal tooth, mid claws in male simple, in female external claw with tooth, internal claw simple, external claw of hind tarsi with tooth, internal simple, micropectinate (figs 10, 11).

Male genitalia as in figs 5, 6. Spermatheca typical for the genus *Charidotella*, with long spiral duct (fig. 7).

TYPES

Holotype and paratype: "Santarem, June 1919. S. M. KLAGES. Acc. 6324", six paratypes: "Coll. R. I. Sc. N. B., Brazil: Santarem, LE MOULT vendit"; two paratypes: "BRAZIL; Para, Santarem, VI 1964, native collector"; one paratype: "Taperina, Brazil, Acc. No. 2965". Both localities are situated in Pará Province, near mouth of the Tapajos River to the Amazonas River. Holotype and paratype in Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Pittsburg, USA, four paratypes in Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Bruxelles, Belgium, four paratypes in author's collection, and one paratype in Manchester Museum, University of Manchester, England.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Dr. R. DAVIDSON (Carnegie Museum) and K. DESENDER (Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique) for the loan of the specimens.

REFERENCES

- BOHEMAN, C. H., 1855. Monographia Cassidarum. Tomus tertius. Holmiae, 543 pp. + 1 tab.
BOROWIEC, L., 1989. Three new species of *Charidotella* WEISE (Coleoptera, Chrysomelidae, Cassidinae), with checklist of the genus. Pol. Pismo Entomol., 59: 203-222..

SPAETH, F., 1914. *Chrysomelidae*: 16. *Cassidinae*. In: W. JUNK, S. SCHENKLING, *Coleopterorum Catalogus*, Pars 62, Berlin, 182 pp.

SPAETH, F., 1942. *Cassidinae* (*Col. Chrysom.*). In: *Beiträge zur Fauna Perus*, 2: 11-43.